10/18/83
A3275-2

TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 13, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 8 totaled an estimated 17.9 billion ton-miles, 19.0 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 40 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 632.6 billion ton-miles, 1.8 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 8 totaled 400,178 cars, 13.5 percent over 1982, but 2.1 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 11.3 percent in the East, 3.9 percent in the South and 21.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with grain loadings showing an increase of 13,929 cars, or 65.3 percent; motor vehicles and equipment up 7,352 cars, or 59.0 percent; and metallic ores up 5,596 cars, or 52.9 percent. Nineteen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 1 totaled 52,219 cars, up 22.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 92,024 trailers and/or containers, 19.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 39 weeks of the year was 1,728,558 cars, 21.5 percent higher than last year, and 2,985,444 trailers and/or containers, up 18.5 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/8/83:

	Loadings in Week ended October 8, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	35,254	I	13,929	65.3	I	6,566	22.9
Other farm products	3,825	I	266	7.5	D	116	3.0
Metallic ores	16,178	I	5,596	52.9	D	1,460	8.3
Coal	109,478	D	1,875	1.7	D	849	0.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,813	I	1,694	16.7	D	55	0.5
Nonmetallic minerals	11,423	I	1,408	14.1	D	1,810	13.7
Grain mill products	11,921	D	104	0.9	D	983	7.6
Food and kindred products	12,131	D	1,289	9.6	D	837	6.5
Primary forest products	14,612	D	167	1.1	D	774	5.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,024	I	1,225	21.1	D	806	10.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,271	D	41	0.3	D	871	5.4
Chemicals and allied products	24,839	I	4,121	19.9	D	2,381	8.7
Petroleum products	4,725	I	182	4.0	D	12	0.3
Stone, clay and glass products	11,810	I	911	8.4	D	430	3.5
Coke	4,887	I	216	4.6	D	347	6.6
Metals and products	8,168	I	1,701	26.3	D	1,511	15.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,817	I	7,352	59.0	I	278	1.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,911	I	1,519	20.5	D	484	5.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,740	I	2,494	30.2	D	327	3.0
All other carloads	57,040	I	9,386	19.7	D	1,144	2.0
LCL traffic	311	D	794	71.9	D	26	7.7
Total Cars Loaded	400,178	I	47,730	13.5	D	8,379	2.1
Corresponding week of 1982	352,448						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (40 weeks)	14,389,575	14,578,480	D 1.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
39 weeks ended October 1	614.8	606.3	I 1.4
Week ended October 8	17.9	15.0	I 19.0
40 weeks cumulative	632.6	621.3	I 1.8

AARt-101383